



## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Jordan Bureau

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

Chief, Operations Group

DATE

June 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

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14 JUL 1988

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FORM 1-79

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USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

FBIS-4010-88  
3 July 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Acting Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--June 1988

## I. GENERAL

A. The dollar improved viv-a-vis the Jordanian dinar by some 8 percent this month, brightening the bureau's budgetary picture for at least the time being. However, in recognition of this change, our COLA was cut from 20 percent to 15 percent effective 19 June. The dollar's strength may not have been the sole cause of the currency movement, since the Central Bank of Jordan issued new regulations this month to limit the amount of dollars that can be bought by dinars through the city's money changers, thus highlighting the country's lack of economic support from the usual sources, such as the Gulf countries, and the need to hold on to a depleted supply of hard currency.

B. According to the JORDAN TIMES, this month marked the apparent end of a three-month long (so far) major campaign, initiated by the crown prince and the Public Security Department, "to ensure comprehensive security in the country" by "cleansing Amman of vagabonds and beggars that used to infest the streets and alleys." Many non-Jordanians picked up in the sweep by a special PSD force working in teams have been deported; and others have been fined and banned from peddling their merchandise on the streets. The teams are also charged with monitoring violations of law by merchants, shopkeepers, and street vendors and reporting to the Greater Amman Municipality on any cases of damage to public property or disturbances by members of the public.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. An emergency Arab Summit was held in Algiers from 7-9 June. Jordan's King Husayn, who addressed the gathering on 8 June, criticized U.S. Middle East policy saying it is based on "crisis-management" and support for Israel. Husayn added that he has some "reservations" regarding some of the points in the Shultz initiative. In addition, he reiterated that his only aim is to liberate the Palestinian territories and regain their legitimate national rights. The bureau was able to process the address for immediate filing with the assistance of an "official" translation of the speech provided by the Foreign Ministry.

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2. Iraq's recapture of the Majnun Islands from Iran during an 8-hour battle on 25 June marked another turn in the war. Described by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as one of the "last of the difficult battles," Iraq's victory regained the Majnun oilfield area which has oil reserves estimated at 30 billion barrels.

#### B. Technical

The bureau received the modem and associated software sent by ESG during the month, and Engineer [ ] has conducted tests locally. The bureau also finally received the six IBM typewriters sent us by Tel Aviv Bureau. Editor [ ], while he was on a non-pro courier run to Jerusalem, discovered them where they had been inadvertently sidetracked by the Consulate.

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### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. Assistant Electronics Engineer [ ] assumed duty on 19 June as an FBN-7/1.

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2. The bureau placed advertisements in the local paper for a new teletypist. Some promising candidates have already applied for the position soon to be vacated by [ ]

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3. [ ] arrived in Amman 21 June on a lateral assignment from Hong Kong Bureau and assumed command as deputy chief on 30 June as former Deputy Chief [ ] departed for CONUS and Headquarters duty the same day. The bureau held one of its famous Hail and Farewell potluck luncheons on 25 June to welcome Shawn and say goodbye to Sandra.

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4. On 30 June bureau stalwart, Electronics Engineer [ ] registered his marriage Islamic-style to Widad Abd Al-Hadi. He is now sporting a brand-new wedding ring, although the date for the formal wedding has yet to be fixed. Mohammad must also now find a suitable residence for the both of them and stock it properly with furniture. The bureau celebrated with a tray of Nabulsi kanafi thoughtfully provided by the bridegroom.

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### IV. VISITS

From the bureau: Bureau Chief [ ] to the States on R&R 2-25 June.

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V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Deputy Bureau Chief [redacted]  
[redacted] received community service awards at a Hail and Farewell  
on 11 June at the American Club. Sandra has served as a member of  
the American Club Board, while Linda has served on the board of  
the American Embassy Employees Association. In the fall Linda  
will begin duties as the elected secretary of the AEEA board.

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[redacted]

Chief, Jordan Bureau

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